

**ST PETER'S CHURCH
MAGAZINE
APRIL 2018**



The magazine is an important means of outreach and keeps everyone informed and in touch with the life of St Peter's Church. The magazine is free, though it would be appreciated if you would like to give a donation towards production costs. If you would like a magazine delivered to your home, please contact the Parish Office.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE THEATRE VISIT NATIVITY: THE MUSICAL

The Social Committee is organising a theatre visit to see Nativity: The Musical on Friday 2nd November, at 7pm, at the Liverpool Empire.

It is 'feel-good', funny and full of Yuletide joy! Also, it is suitable for the whole family. The cost of a ticket plus transport is £37 per person. If we are to benefit from this price it is necessary to have numbers as soon as possible. A list will be published and placed in the porch.

We require numbers by Sunday 29th April, please.

If you require any further information, please see Paul McHenry or a member of the Social Committee.



Church Services

Sundays

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662)
- 10.00 am Parish Eucharist (Coffee afterwards)
- 6.30 pm Choral Evensong
- Next Service of Wholeness - Sunday 29th April at 6.30pm

Weekdays

- 9.00 am Morning Prayer
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
- 11.00 am Wednesday Eucharist (Coffee afterwards)
- 6.30 pm Eucharist 1st Friday of each month
- 9.00am **Breakfast Church** – 1st Saturday of each month

From the Editorial Team

What a wonderful cover our magazine features this month, reminding us all of the great festival we are about to celebrate.

This month's edition, a bumper one, records the wide nature of activities and interests over the whole spectrum of the church.

Anne notes in her introduction that Nathan Thorpe is leading the confirmation classes this year. Please do talk to Nathan if you would like to participate, whether you are a youngster or a person of mature years who has never got around to become confirmed in past years. He's really very gentle.

Page 7 features one of our most important initiatives in recent times, being the Uganda Project when eleven of our parishioners leave for the village of Kalule to help in the educational development of the village school. All contributions, either in kind as mentioned by Anne, or cash would be most welcome.

We wish them all every success in this most worthwhile venture.

We include in pages 16 and 17 a wonderful prizewinning article written by Mia Shalliker, a pupil of Formby High School, about her grandfather. To avoid the latter's embarrassment, we will not identify him!

Happy Easter everyone

Best wishes from The Editorial Team

Our diocesan prayer

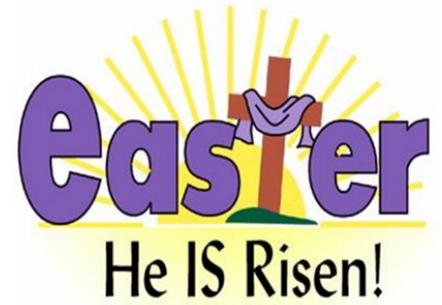
Loving Father,
by your grace we long to see
more people knowing Jesus,
and more justice in your world.
Help us to live as your disciples in the
power of the Spirit
and to work to your praise and glory.
Amen.



*Please note the deadline for the May 2018 edition of the magazine is **Friday 6th April 2018.** Contributions to alisonwhiffing@aol.com please.*

Dear Friends,

A member of our family is a sheep farmer and one of the joys of visiting the farm at this time of year is to see the new lambs gambolling around the fields, or if they have just been born, to see them begin to feed and to bond with their mothers.



It's a heart-warming sight, especially when the sun is shining and the grass is green, and not covered with snow or burnt brown with the freezing biting winds we've been having recently.

But lambing also entails a lot of night work – as well as day work. Like babies, lambs cannot be programmed to be born only in day time.

But there's something special about seeing a lamb being born as they very quickly struggle to their feet. New life brings a sense of hope. As the clocks have sprung forward and the evenings get longer there is a renewed sense of anticipation. With the promise of a new day comes the promise of a new life.



And that resonates very well with the Easter story.

It was at dawn that the two Mary's went to Jesus' tomb to anoint his body. It was as the first rays of the sun lightened the dark sky that they were given the stupendous news, "He is not here. He is risen!" It was at dawn that they had their first meeting with the risen Jesus and heard his word, "Peace be with you. Don't be afraid." And it was as the sun was rising that Peter and John raced to the empty tomb and found the folded grave clothes where the body of Jesus had lain.

Some time ago a book of sermons was published called "The Gospel of the Dawn". What a good description that is for the message of Easter.

Easter transformed the disciples from being people of fear to people of courage. It transformed their sorrow into joy, their despair into hope.

The message of Easter still has such transformative power as it assures us of Christ's living and loving presence with us, whatever the situation we find ourselves in. For us, too, the Resurrection brings us hope in our difficulties. No matter how dark the night, the dawn will come.

School News –

It was great to hear of the appointment of Sue Wong as a Diocesan Foundation Governor for Trinity St Peter's School.

Confirmation -

The Deanery Confirmation Service will be on Monday 21st May at 7.30pm in Liverpool Cathedral. Confirmation is a way for someone to re-affirm their baptism vows and grow deeper in their faith. If you are interested, then please contact Nathan 461841
nathanthorpe1@hotmail.co.uk



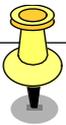
Thank You ...

There are so many people in St Peter's that quietly get on with so many jobs from delivering Holy Week Cards to making up daffodil posies for Mothering Sunday. A big thank you to the Social Committee for organising a very enjoyable St Patrick's Day Ceilidh so the Irish could celebrate in style! And thank you to the Lent Series speakers for a very thought provoking series. Finally thanks to David and the choir and all who helped make Holy Week once again a very special journey.

Ted & I, along with Nathan & Poppy, wish you a very Happy Easter.

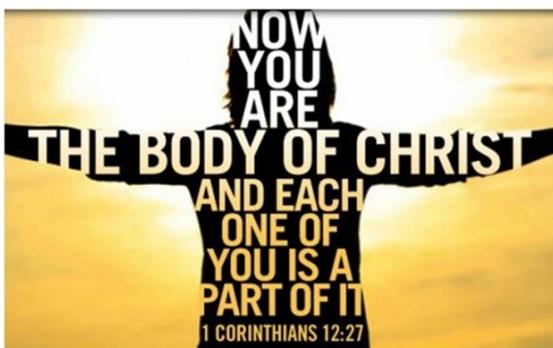


Anne



A.P.C.M. – 22nd April after the 10am service

After Easter signals the time for the parish to hold the Annual Parochial Church Meeting which is basically our A.G.M. Often people don't come along to this meeting because they think they might get a job or it is boring. But this is a really good opportunity to hear how things are going overall in the parish, the plans for the future, to receive the financial report for the past year, to elect seven members onto the P.C.C. for a three year term and the Churchwardens for the coming year. But don't let elections put you off attending – no one is press-ganged into anything!



The AGM is important because it's an exercise in democracy in the church. The parish is not about 'them'; rather it's about 'us'. Everyone has a say in the life of the parish. So do consider coming along and I promise you will be home for your lunch!

ST PETER'S UGANDA PROJECT - TOGETHER WE CAN!

On Sunday evening, 27th May, a team of eleven people from St Peter's will travel to Uganda on a work project to help people in the village of Kalule.

Kalule is about 25 miles north of the capital, Kampala, and our work will be focussed on the church (also called St Peter's!), the school and a women's project. The church and the school need repainting. The local school teachers will benefit from the experience and advice from the teachers in our group.

Some time ago the local women set up a catering and sewing co-operative to help pay for the education of their children. School fees and books have to be paid for by the children's parents – schooling is not free in Uganda, and the women have asked for business advice and help in strategic planning for their co-op.

As in most schools in Africa, education focusses on 'the 3 R's', and we plan to introduce sports and games for the children for the hour after school each day.

The project, Together We Can, was set up eight years ago by the Revd Sheilagh Williamson, a vicar in Darlington. Sheilagh has just retired and is in Uganda at present. She plans to return to Uganda a week before we get there to make sure everything is prepared for our project.



The local school has about 200 pupils and we are asking the pupils of Trinity StPeter's, and children of our parish in other schools, to make up **PENCIL CASES** for each of the pupils in Kalule. Pencil cases should include pens, pencils (plain and coloured) a ruler, rubber and pencil sharpener, It is hoped that the two schools will twin with each other and exchange news on a regular basis.

Our group met recently with Sheilagh and she has suggested items we could bring with us that would be greatly appreciated by the adults and children of the village.

For adults: toilet bags containing soap, a flannel, toothbrush and toothpaste; material for making clothes/quilts; wool; cotton; scissors, sewing needles Cotton nighties are

also very popular and T shirts for all ages. Apparently suitcases are much sought after (they are used for storage in their houses), so if you have an old suitcase, it could be used by the group to take items over and left behind! They have also requested Bibles, but these would need to be small and not too heavy.

For children: Ladybird books, simple information books, reading books, footballs and netballs (deflated!) and football shirts.

We have requested the airline for an extra weight allowance!

The group will be staying at the Luwero Diocesan Guest House. To get to Kalule from Luwero will involve a half-hour trip there and back, and we are hiring a minibus with driver to ferry us around.

We would welcome donations of any of the above items which may be left at the Vicarage, Parish Office or church porch. Some parishioners have offered to help finance the work the group will be undertaking while there and any donations may be put on the plate in church in a blue envelope (this will include gift aid) or left at the Vicarage or Parish Office in an envelope marked 'Uganda Project'. Cheques should be made payable to 'St Peter's – Uganda Project.' Each member of the group is paying their own fare and accommodation and all donations will go towards financing the actual work that will be undertaken.

From experience, it is hard to underestimate the effect such a project has on both the members of the group and the people they go out to support. Reading or hearing about needs in various parts of the world can never take the place of a personal, first-hand experience. Both Anne and Ted have been involved in similar projects before and have seen the revitalising effect such projects have on the sending parish as horizons are widened beyond our own parochial needs and concerns.

Sheilagh tells us that there is great excitement in Kalule at the prospect of welcoming a group from Formby who are willing to make this journey to be with them. We will also be greeted by the Bishop of Luwero, The Rt. Rev. Eridard Nsubuga, who has given his whole-hearted support to our involvement.

We will be in Uganda for 10 days, returning at 7.50am on Thursday 6th June.

Members of the group are:- Steve & Shena Edwards, Pete Hawkins, Paul McHenry, Nathan & Poppy Thorpe, Anne Taylor & Ted Woods, and from Trinity StPeter's Samantha Morris, Donna Grayson and Ella Giles.

Some children from Kalule.



Bishop of Warrington's Easter Message 2018



Retirement is a strange thing to think about. You find yourself conflicted. On the one hand a chapter of your life and, in my case, ministry is closing. One where you hope you have contributed to the bringing of a glimpse of God's kingdom into the world. On the other hand you see a slightly less certain future mapped out. I am looking forward to retirement but wonder about what exactly that holds.

I guess that is what change does. It excites and unsettles us in pretty much equal measure. I am very conscious of this in my own life. But I am equally conscious of this in the life of our diocese. Many churches, many individuals are seeing change around them or happening to them and that can be difficult. Many are trying to grapple with a desire to serve our communities and be a church that reaches more people in order to demonstrate the love that we know we receive from knowing Jesus. Others worry about the many conflicting pressures that they see as they try to be church. We see many ideas and attempts to be part of a church that can build and grow for the future and we wonder how they will work and will there be space for us in this new future.

That's perfectly natural and understandable. But we get it wrong if we let it overwhelm us. That way we become trapped, imprisoned and can often be consumed with rage trying to hold onto the status quo as if it were a security blanket. That is destructive.

But the Easter story shows how we can be rooted in our past story while embracing what feels like an uncertain future. The Easter message is about hope. It is about the realisation that Jesus brings our fears and anxieties into one place and defeats them. It is when Jesus brought the entire history and future of God's people together in his death and resurrection. The promise of eternal life, of the coming of God's kingdom which flows from his sacrificial act, brings immense joy to all.

Of course at the time the disciples didn't instantly see that. They would have seen themselves staring at a future without their leader, their immediate source of inspiration. Scared and insecure they would have been unsure of the future. But surely the example of Jesus encouraging them to step out of the boat and face their fears will have given them strength. As we know, through the power of the spirit, they did step out into uncertainty. And we know how that transformed the world.

I don't claim such magnificence for myself nor do I make too many grand claims for the change we face in our churches and our lives. But I know we can all face that change because the Easter story shows us how something that seems so devastating is part of God's great and victorious plan.

Bishop Richard is due to retire as Bishop of Warrington in April. His farewell service with Eucharist will be held in the Cathedral on Saturday 21st April at 3pm and he wants to extend the invitation to all parishes to join him for this occasion.

Harmful

During a recent television programme there was a discussion about belief in God, specifically Christianity. One speaker stated that he could not accept any belief in God because of the harm religion has done over the centuries. He also indicated that not believing was a sign of maturity. There is nothing new in this and the 'harm' argument is used quite a lot these days. It is always possible to shrug the shoulders and say, "That's your loss." However there must be some form of response.

In fact there are probably several. One could be that many approaches to life have been harmful but today are now acceptable and have a proper moral force, for example the medical profession used medical practices such as bloodletting with no evidence that it was effective, in fact the opposite, yet we are happy to go to our GP today.

Another approach would be to try a balancing act. That there may have been harm but consider the good done throughout the history of Christianity. For example the priests in the Black Death who stayed in the affected villages and cared for the sick.

But many of these arguments miss the main point which is that we are humans with all the frailty, cussedness and power-seeking characteristics. To use the 'harm' argument is not one which proves God does not exist or that religion is fundamentally harmful. What faith does is to allow the all-too-human person with failings to see a way forward, it is accountable, relevant and allows us to recognise that we are all too human.

Rod Jacques



TIMEOUT



Formby Cricket Club Bar, Cricket Path,
Formby, Liverpool L37 7DP

The next meeting will be at 8pm on

Wednesday 25th April

Topic: 'The Brexit Dilemma' discussion will be led by
Richie Edwards from Open Britain. Richie will give a Christian
perspective on a subject that is seldom out of the news.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE

"New Beginnings" for those planning to get married in St Peter's or St Luke's. It is a relaxed group where couples can support each other; where the church can offer advice about the practical things concerned with a wedding; and where we can look together at some of the key things which make for a successful marriage.

Session 2: Sunday 15th April 4-6pm
(Boundaries, Recognising Stress,
Communication) in St Peter's Bier House



More information from Sally Nicol, New Beginnings Co-Ordinator Tel 877655

St Peter's Dementia Support Group
in The Bier House 2.00 - 3.30pm
Monday 9th April

DAA Dementia
Action Alliance

All welcome, both carers and cared for, just drop in! If you would like support from our team between these dates please contact the Parish Office on 01704 871171 or email stpetersformby@gmail.com

FOOD BANK UPDATE



The Food Bank reports that there was an increase in client numbers in 2017. The increase is typified by the 5769 meals provided during December 2017 compared to the 5400 provided in December 2016.

Fortunately the increase need was matched by the generosity of donors. The weight of food donated so far this year is 10 per cent up on the same period last year. Many thanks for your support and keep up the good work.

Glyn Jones

How you can make a lasting difference to the work of St Peter's

Once you have made provision for your loved ones, you have the opportunity to make a lasting gift to God, by leaving a legacy to His church.

Leaving a gift in your Will is one of the most valuable and lasting ways you can continue to support the mission and ministry at St Peter's.

Please pick up one of our Legacy Leaflets in Church for more information.

CHURCH LIBRARY

The library has a selection of DVD's as well as books for adults & children. Both the BBC and ITV have produced many excellent religious documentaries and films.

If you would like to borrow a book or DVD please write your name in the book provided. The Library is situated in the Bier House. We hope this will be a useful resource for all ages.



FORMBY LUNCHEON CLUB



Open Tuesdays to Fridays

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And make new friends

Some wonderful day trips being offered this summer

Enjoy other activities at the club such as - CHAIR-BASED EXERCISES, YOGA, BINGO, WINE TASTING, ART CLUB, SLIMMING WORLD, FRIENDS OF ALZHEIMERS and many more.....
Look out for Craft Fairs, Quiz Nights & Breakfast Breaks throughout the year.

SAMPLE MENUS:

- Salmon & broccoli bake
- Chicken Pie
- Steak & Kidney Pie
- Roast Dinner
- Syrup sponge & custard
- Fruit Strudel
- Crème Caramel

Transport to and from the Club provided



Contact: 01704 877311 info.formbycvs@talktalk.net
Follow us on Facebook – Formby Luncheon Club

Little Fishes Pre-school Group

Every Friday 9:15am - 11:30am in the Parish Hall, Paradise Lane.

Little Fishes is a group that extends a warm welcome to parents, grandparents and carers with children from birth to three.

Contact Leah Wilson at leah.mahon1@gmail.com

The dates for Little Fishes are: April 13th, 20th, 27th



Breakfast Church

Join us at Breakfast Church on **Saturday 7th April**

at 9am in the Bier House.

30 minute service followed by toast & chat. **You will be very welcome.**



Children start in church (10am) and then move to the Bier House for lots of

fun. An adult comes with the child and can join in with the activities. All children are welcome though it is designed for the younger age group (up to Year 2).

Sunday Club Dates April 1st, 15th and 22nd

FISHY CLUB

This Club is our after-school bible club for children in Years 4 to 6 in primary school. We meet in the Parish Hall, Paradise Lane, immediately after school on a Wednesday finishing at 4.15pm. Children in Trinity St Peter's School will be collected by a leader after school. Come and join in the fun.

Dates – April 18th and 25th

Anne Taylor 872824 revannetaylor@gmail.com



HOTDOG CHILDREN'S SERVICE



Sunday 29th April 2018

A short service in Church for children & young people at 12noon followed by hotdogs in the Bier House.

All welcome.

Formby Quiet Time

1st Friday of the month 10:30am to 12 midday

Bier House, St Peter's Church, Green Lane, Formby L37 7DL



Quiet Time is based on the Quaker tradition of silent worship. The meetings are open to everyone, of faith or no faith, who would like to come and share half an hour of peace and reflection with refreshments provided afterwards.

Sue Jacques



Le Tour de Deanerie

A Prayer Trail Around Sefton North Deanery

12th & 13th May 2018

Celebrate Pentecost with a tour around the churches of Sefton North Deanery, by bike, by car or on foot! A response to the Archbishops' "Thy Kingdom Come" prayer initiative, the tour will take in the 14 churches of the deanery together with Redgate School (Holy Trinity's church plant in Formby) and The StoryHouse (St Luke's "fresh expression" coffee shop in Crosby). Routes are currently being planned for a cycle tour and a vehicle tour, and we shall be suggesting shorter walking tours in the three main areas of the deanery, Formby, Crosby and Maghull. Route plans will be provided, and each church will stamp your map with it's own unique, custom-made rubber stamp, so you will have a memento which can only increase in value as time goes by! There will be an opportunity to pray at each location, and to receive both spiritual and material refreshment.



The cycle route will start and finish in Formby, probably at Freshfield station, which is easily accessible from any part of the Merseyrail network. The route will be in a generally clockwise direction (Formby – Maghull – Aintree - Crosby) and has been designed so that anyone who's losing puff after the earlier sections can hop on a train to get back to the start for the podium celebrations! Walking and vehicle maps will also be produced.

Full details will be available in the near future. In the meantime get training!

Primetime

Our next meeting will be on

Wednesday 18th April 2018 at 7.30pm

*in the Old School Room, St Peter's Parish Hall,
Paradise Lane, Formby L37 7EH*

*We do something different at each meeting, but you can
take part as much or as little as you like -
whatever we do, we enjoy ourselves!*

All welcome, bring a friend.

For further details call Sonia, Elaine or Ali
on 833781 / 874635 / 879976





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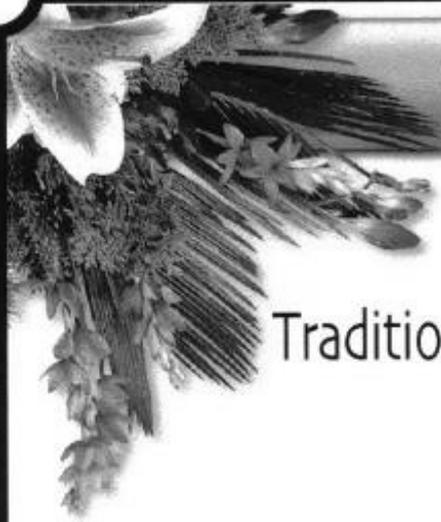


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Learning for Living

Learning for Living was started by the John Templeton Foundation, a worldwide organisation promoting principles which make the world a better place. Young people entering the essay competition were to think about issues such as integrity and compassion and to write drawing on their own experiences. Jennifer Matthias has run this competition since 2001 and it is sponsored by St Peter's Educational Trust. This essay was written by Mia Shalliker, who attends Formby High, and she was the winner of the High School section of the competition.

Mia Shalliker — Formby High School

The Challenge of Cancer

A couple of years after I was born, my Grandpa lost his leg due to cancer. Before this, he used to go backpacking and on long distance walks. He regularly went running in the gym and he had even completed a half marathon. He was very sporty and enjoyed golf. When he found out he had a rare type of bone cancer, a whole new challenge was thrown at him! He found out he had to have his leg amputated which saved, and changed, his life.

Even the little things in life that we do every day, were a challenge. Such simple things, such as taking his tea over to the table or having a shower suddenly became difficult. But my Grandpa, being my Grandpa, always overcame those challenges and never gave up! One other thing ... he never complained. He always made anything negative into a positive. For example, when my Nan still worked part-time, Grandpa would have to look after my little baby brother and he couldn't carry him because he only had one leg. So, when it was lunch time, he used to put him on a blanket and slide him across the floor to the high chair!

He had his operation in June and only six weeks later he was walking up steep paths in Cornwall and doing lots of the things he used to do before he had his operation. He said that his disability has taught him to continue having a wonderful life with a few restrictions.

He said, "My family have helped me a lot since I first lost my leg and they understand that I want to get back to my old life and carry on, not thinking about only having one leg."

This is yet another example of keeping positive.

When some young children see him and say, "Oh look, that man only has one leg.!" My Grandpa turns around and says, "Yes, I have only got one leg, but I am a Hoppity Bunny!"

He told me that this tends to confuse them and puts them off a little bit and they just go back to what they were doing.

Everyone in my family is very proud of him and help him in different ways. When our whole family went skiing a couple of years ago, a child collided with my Grandpa, in the first hour on the ski slope, knocking Grandpa over! Much later, when he arrived back home, he was told he had two broken ribs and he had carried on skiing, all holiday!

We all try and help him as much as we can, and he now has seven grandchildren that he helps to look after. His disability does affect us but not as much as it could because he can do most of the things we can do and always gets along.

Soon after his operation, he renovated his house, as he wanted a shower in the downstairs toilet, "Just in case I become disabled!" he said.

If everyone had a positive attitude like my Grandpa, the world would be a much better place because people would try and overcome the challenges that are thrown at them in life and never give up! Everyone should make the most of their life because you don't know what is going to happen next. My Grandpa didn't know he was only going to have one leg. The doctor told him he only had a 5% chance of surviving for five years, so he decided to make the most of this chance and get on with life like he would normally.

And the lesson from this; is to live life to the full because you don't know what's round the corner.

Mia Shalliker

RSCM Award - Certificate of Special Service for Graham Jones

The Certificate of Special Service is an award for significant administrative work as a voluntary officer or member of staff within the RSCM, or an award for a significant contribution to church music and/or liturgy at a local level.



Graham Jones directed the music in St Peter's, Formby, for 38 years with great skill, dedication and care, establishing a fine musical tradition. For many years he has also been an active member of the RSCM Liverpool and Isle of Man Area Committee, which has benefited greatly from his meticulous attention to detail, the support he gives to events, and his initiative in organising events at his own church.

The award will be announced in the March issue of Church Music Quarterly (CMQ) and be formally presented at the 2018 RSCM Celebration Day in Salisbury Cathedral in September.

Collect used stamps for the Bone Cancer Research Trust and help raise vital funds for life saving research.

Small stamps, large stamps, old stamps, new stamps, franked and international stamps... we want all your stamps!

All you need to do is cut or carefully tear the stamped corner from any envelope or packet that you receive in the post and add them to the box in the porch or hand them in at the office - just remember to leave a 1cm border around the stamp.



By collecting just 1kg of stamps we can help pay towards an hour vital life saving research underway across the UK.

For more information on the Bone Cancer Research Trust see their website at bcrt.org.uk
Thank you!



On Thursday, 1st March, Revd Nathan Thorpe gave a talk on the Black Death in the 14th century, one of the most devastating catastrophes ever to have hit Europe.

He outlined the political and social background to the plague which raged across the continent and then Britain, in some places killing over half the population within a few days. The clergy who ministered to the sick were particularly hard hit. Nathan had researched church records showing details such as the sins to which people confessed, giving an insight into ordinary life. This was an interesting talk on a significant event in our history. Thank you, Nathan.

The following day, 2nd March, a number of members attended the inspiring Women's World Day of Prayer service at St Stephen's, Hightown.

Our next event is the talk on 5th April at 2pm in the Bier House when John Wilson, Chief Executive of the Seafarers' Centre in Liverpool, will speak about the work of the centre.

Preparations are going ahead for the Centenary Service of the MU in Formby, to be held in Holy Trinity Church on Wednesday, 16th May at 2pm.

The Canal Cruise from Chester takes place on Thursday, 7th June. Those going have already paid a deposit of £5.00 a head. Please let Tricia Shaw have the balance of £16.50 at the meeting on 5th April. In addition, there will be a charge of £5.00 for those travelling by mini-bus, also payable on 5th April.

The yellow collecting bucket for loose cash, which provides "away from it all" holidays for disadvantaged children, will continue to be present at Bier House meetings throughout the year.

We wish you all a very happy Easter,

Eleanor and Jean



The children from Year 6 in Trinity St Peter's joined Anne & Nathan for an Easter Service in St Joseph's Fernley Resource Centre



Do you fancy having a reserved seat?

Do you like singing?

Do you want to help lead music in St Peter's?

If you can't commit to the Robed Choir which sings both choral services every Sunday, do you fancy joining The St Peter's Singers, who sing for special occasions?

Alternatively, could you help out occasionally at weddings?

If you're interested in knowing more about the Robed Choir, or the St Peter's Singers, please come and speak to me after any service, or email me:

david@davidholroyd.org



Thank you to all the St Peter's folk for supporting me at Evensong in the Cathedral on Sunday 25th February.

Also a big thank you to Gill Holroyd for organising a meal afterwards.

A great time had by all.

Revd Anne



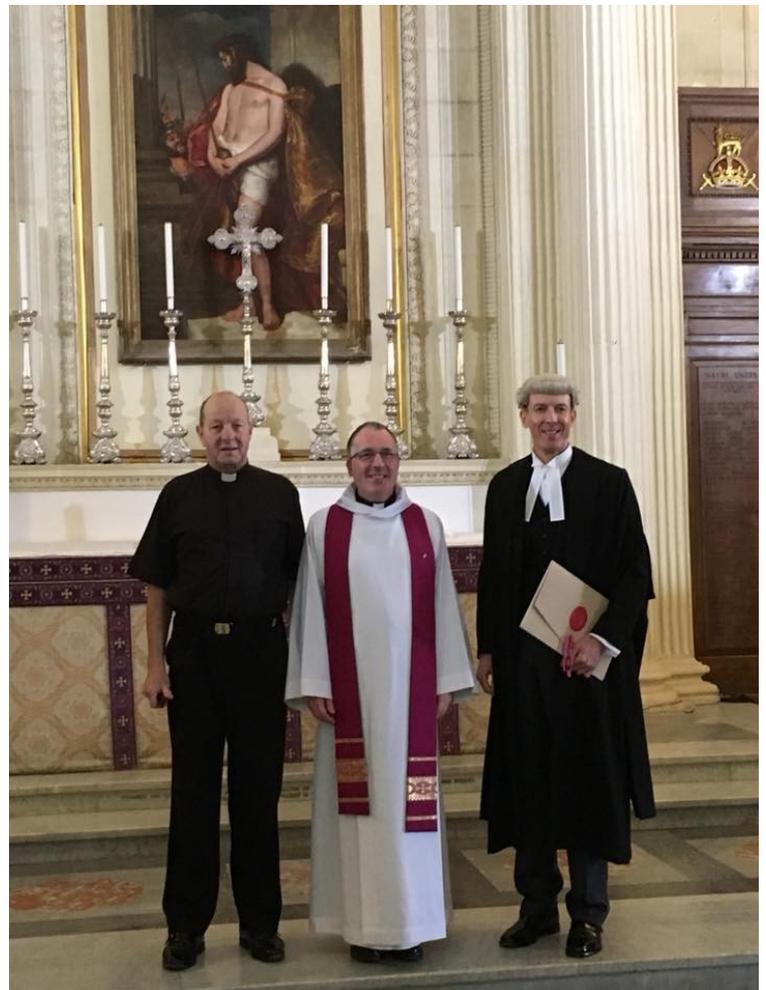
St Paul's Pro-Cathedral Valletta, Malta



St Paul's Anglican Pro-Cathedral was built between 1839 and 1844 on the initiative of the Queen Dowager Adelaide, widow of King William IV and the aunt of Queen Victoria. The Pro-Cathedral is dedicated to Saint Paul, considered to be the spiritual father of the Maltese nation. Its unique and historic identity is complementary to and in harmony with the Archdiocese of Malta, walking together in Faith. The building is designed to a Neo-Classical architectural style with a grand temple-front portico with Ionic columns. An array of eight Corinthian columns embellishes its interior.



The Revd Paul Ormrod was installed on Sunday 18th February as a Canon of the Cathedral Chapter, in the Pro-Cathedral of St Paul in Valletta, Malta. The Chancellor of Malta, Canon Simon Godfrey presided at the installation, and the Diocesan Registrar, Mr Aiden Hargreaves Smith performed the necessary legal actions. The function of the Cathedral Chapter is to support the bishop by prayer and counsel.



The Chancellor of Malta, Canon Ormrod and the Diocesan Registrar

St Silas Stall

Many travelled from St George's Madrid where Canon Ormrod serves as Chaplain, as well as from a former parish where he served in Formby.

In addition to his considerable parochial work in Madrid, Fr Paul has begun to work with me on an ecumenical vision for our partnership with the Roman Catholic Church in Spain.

Welcome to the Cathedral Chapter, Canon Ormrod!

Bishop David Hamid



BEAVERS

As an add on to the RSPB national bird survey we got the Beavers (they are only 6 and 7 year olds) to make a bird box each. We cut the wood for them and they assembled them over two Friday nights. Twenty Beavers all hammering away in the church hall! All the leaders needed headache tablets.



We sold them all and made a £35 profit, which we donated to the RSPB, with Gift Aid this was £42!

After only 1 day up, one Beaver had a visitor to his box!



Allan Jones

National Army Cadet Youth Band

BAND CONCERT

Ince Blundell Village Hall, L38 6JQ

Wednesday 4th April 2018 7:30 pm

In Aid of the Poppy Appeal & Band Funds

Tickets £5

from Formby Home, Hightown Village Store
or telephone 871927 / 874101



Brownies

1st Formby St Peter's Brownie Group

We are now working towards the musician's badge which is proving to be very entertaining.



We have just completed work on the Disability Awareness badge. We had a lovely evening with Katie Maddison, her sister Brownie Ellie and her Mum Lisa.

Photo: The whole pack with Katie Maddison.

We are going to spend the rest of the term raising money for Rainbow House where Katie attends. **(For more info see www.thelegacy-rainbowhouse.com)**

Caroline Speakman

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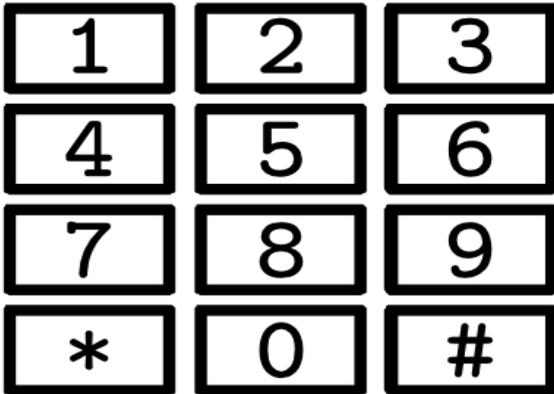
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We warmly welcome you and your child to come and discover our excellent setting. Our friendly staff will be able to show you around our Foundation Stage and Wrap Around Care and answer any questions you may have.

For further information, please phone: **01704 876391**; email your enquiry to: **admin.trinitystpeters@schools.sefton.gov.uk** or visit the school's website: **www.trinitystpeters.org**



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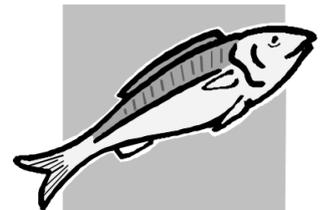
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***WEDNESDAYS: Also parked in the Lay-by on Old Town Lane outside the Chemist and Freshfield Surgery between 09.00-12.00**

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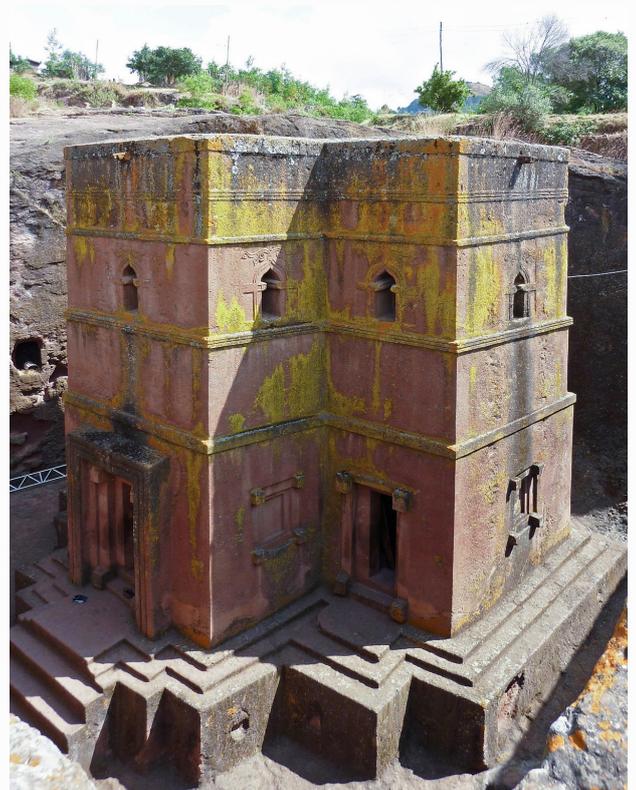
Ethiopia 23rd April to 4th May 2019

Ethiopia is an ancient cradle of civilization with biblical connections going back to the Queen of Sheba who visited King Solomon and to the court official of Candace, Queen of the Ethiopians, who was met by the apostle Philip on the road to Gaza (Acts 8:28-40).

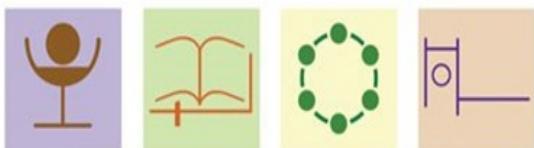
We fly out on Tuesday in Easter week which will be their Tuesday in Holy Week as their Easter is a week later in 2019 so we will have a double Easter!

Not only will we visit the famous rock-hewn churches of Lalibella and other ancient Christian sites over the Easter weekend but also sites of antiquity such as the ancient capital of Axum made famous by the presence of the Ark of the Covenant and the medieval capital at Gondar.

There will be a full day on safari in the Simien Mountains Nature Reserve observing some of its unique animal life. The tour will also include a boat trip on Lake Tana, the source of the Blue Nile, and a visit to the thunderous Blue Nile falls. Also included is a traditional dinner at Gondar and a farewell dinner at Addis Ababa with cultural show, a direct flight to Addis Ababa from Heathrow, a professional guide throughout and accommodation in good hotels on full board basis.



For a brochure with full details please contact Revd Peter Paine, peterspaine@gmail.com, 01704 809517 or Worldwide Christian Travel on their website - <http://www.christian-travel.com>



PARISHGIVINGScheme

If interested, the full details are at www.liverpool.anglican.org/parishgivingscheme

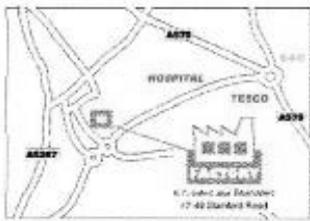
or contact St Peter's Stewardship Team who will be happy to discuss the scheme. Mike Fletcher 07808 310834 or email: stewardshipstpeter@gmail.com

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If you would like some guidance, please feel free to come and have a chat with me, or alternatively please contact me on **07926 587776**

Caroline Speakman **Member of the Society of Willwriters**

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15th May
19th June
17th July
11th September
16th October
20th November
18th December (Carols)

For further information contact: 0151 233 0555

**Additional Recital as part of
LIVERPOOL ORGAN DAY**

Monday 7th May 2018 at 5.30pm £5.00 admission

I have been to a number of these and, for anyone interested in the organ, they are very worth-while.

They are very informal. Ian Tracey gives a very informative chat before each piece that he plays and the programme can include works for the organ (Bach, etc.), popular pieces from the musicals and other well known items.

No need to book. Tickets are available at the door and there is a café at the Hall where you can have a snack either before or after the recital.

Mike Hastie



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BARCLAYS

Easter

Easter is early this year. It does not feel like Spring yet, but signs are showing that it is on the way.

It is seldom that we get much in the way of snow and ice here with our being so near the sea, but this year we have seen both with a vengeance.



As I write this there is snow on the ground, and it is Mothering Sunday in a couple of days. I got up about 6 am to make a cup of tea and thought that it was foggy, but on closer inspection, (with my glasses on!) I saw that it was a blizzard and it was a white world. Now snow looks lovely when it is pristine white and no footsteps have dented it, but believe me, I am glad to see it go. I dread burst pipes and slipping on the slush or ice. The NHS has been inundated with old folk slipping on ice and breaking some part or other, my own cousin slipped and broke her head and arm on ice and is giving the hospital trouble, which would never have happened if it had not been snowy.

When we get snow now the whole country seems to shut down. It makes me wonder how the Swedes and Norwegians and Russians go on with the amount of snow that they have every year, but our services shut down altogether. The Ambulance and Police and Rescue people work, but local services seem to hibernate. I remember the time when the snow was cleared from the footpaths and roads, and salt was put down for safety, trains ran and bus routes stayed working. Have we gone soft?

In spite of all this, Mother Nature keeps on working. The aconites, snowdrops and crocuses are all up under the apple tree and the rhubarb is well up, so there is HOPE that Spring is on the way.

It was cold in The Holy Land when Jesus was born, and we have heard horrendous tales of the cold in Syria as the struggle there goes on, so we are not alone in our misery! It could be much worse. We have heating and comfortable homes. They have very little left of their homes. We have plenty of food in the shops and communications to help those who are housebound because of the weather so it is Thank God Time.

I was kept indoors for a week with the snow but had wonderful neighbours to give a hand. One lady did my shopping. A man spread sand on my path, another swept it clear and I was visited by people younger than I am who do not have such wonky legs, which scared me from going out and falling, so I was not lonely. Being alone does not mean that you have to be lonely.

There is always something to do at home, drawers to clear out, cupboards to de-

clutter and the jobs that have been put off for a long time.

Now Mother's Day is upon us and I look forward to having my far flung family around me. If you look hard enough, there is always something to look forward to.

Roll on Summer!

Martha

"RENEWING HOPE ONE LIFE AT A TIME"

In February I attended a presentation about the work of **Betel UK**. Both presenters were people who had been assisted by this charity to come off addictive drugs and start a new life.

Betel is an international charity which began in Spain. It opened its first British base just south of Birmingham in 1996 at Windmill House. There are five other residences in England. Together they host more than 350 men and women, free of charge in an atmosphere that is completely free of drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

Betel's Christian faith-based method has transformed thousands of lives from all cultures and backgrounds. The only requirement for residence at a Betel house is the individual's sincere desire to change.

Residents live in a community learning to support and care for one another. Together they learn character-building principles and life skills in an atmosphere of acceptance and love which inspires self-esteem and hope for a new future.

The objective is to help residents rebuild their own lives through community responsibility and shared decision-making. Senior community members and leaders live on site and the majority are recovered addicts themselves.

To find out more visit www.betel.uk.
There are leaflets in the porch.



Peter Paine

Curate's Bad Joke Corner.....

What kind of shorts do clouds wear? Thunderwear!

My sister bet I couldn't build a car out of spaghetti... but you should have seen her face when I drove pasta!

I don't trust stairs because they are always up to something.

What do you get if you cross a joke with a rhetorical question?



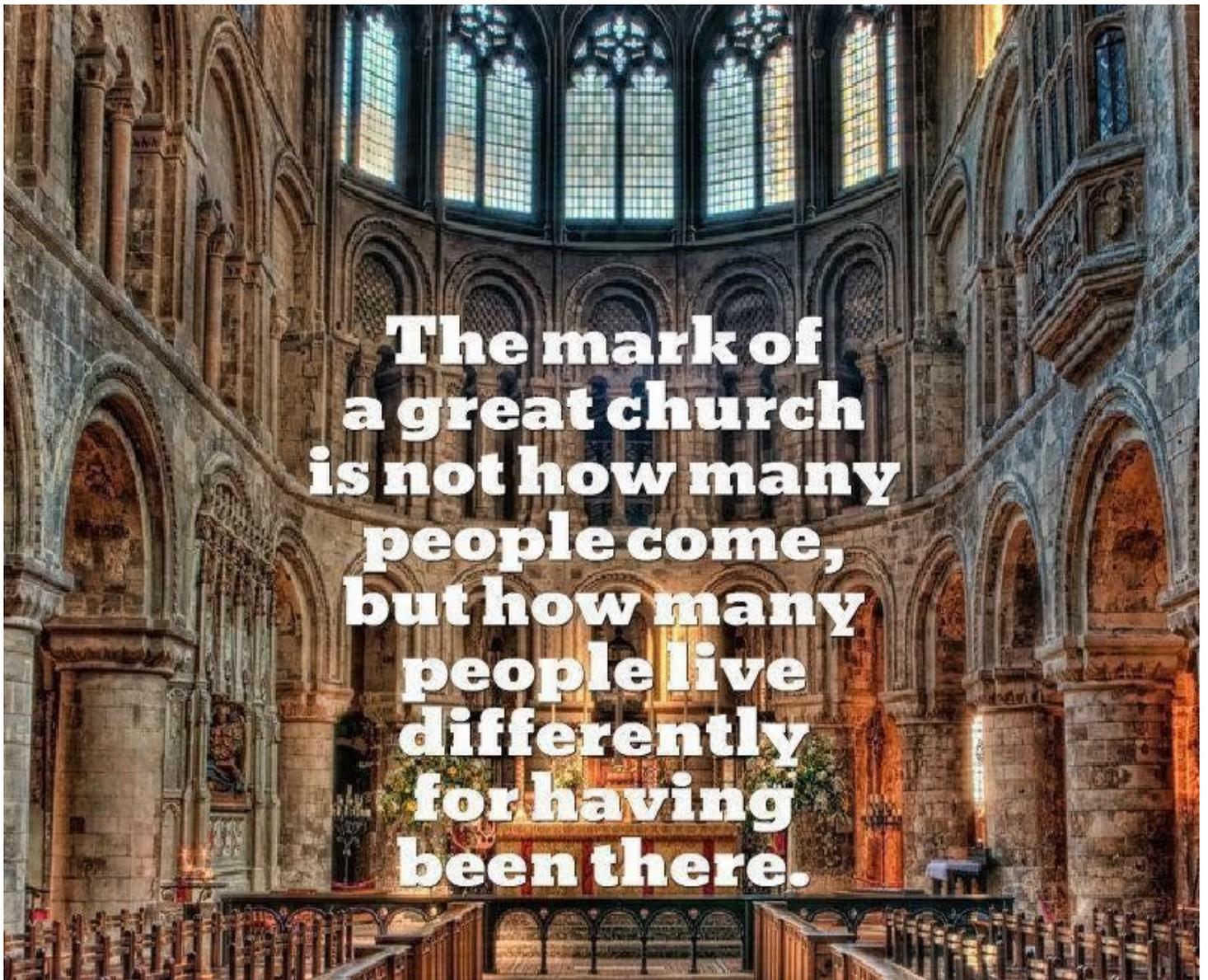
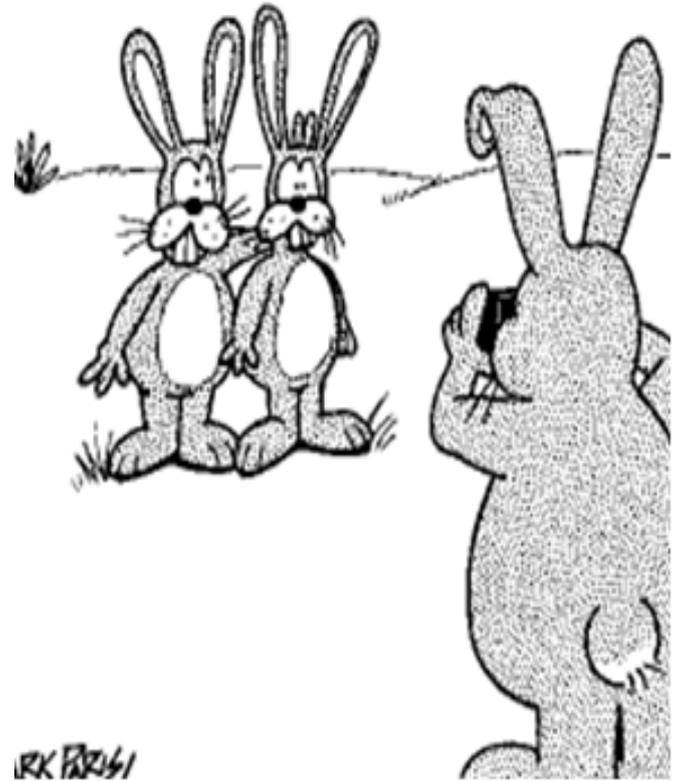
Keep groaning!



- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| ASCENSION | HIDE |
| BAKING | HOLIDAY |
| BASKET | HOLY WEEK |
| CHICKS | HOT CROSS BUNS |
| CHOCOLATES | HYMNS |
| CHURCH BELLS | JESUS |
| COOKING | LAMB |
| DAFFODILS | LILY |
| DISHES | PALM LEAVES |
| EASTER BILBY | RABBIT |
| EASTER MASS | REBIRTH |
| EGG DYE | ROAST |
| EGG HUNT | SPRING |
| GIVES | VIGIL |
| GOOD FRIDAY | |
| GREETING CARDS | |



This wasn't what Derek envisaged when he suggested having a time of sharing!



The mark of a great church is not how many people come, but how many people live differently for having been there.



From the Back Pew Ted Woods

THE RESURRECTION JESUS - THE CASE FOR & AGAINST

The late Canon David Watson was an enormously influential figure in the renewal movement of the latter part of the 20th century. He was a much sought after speaker all over the world and his books were eagerly read.

One of his teaching aids, very innovative at the time, was “Jesus, Then & Now” which was a course on basic Christianity using videos. (Remember those book-like boxes and how many video rental stores there were in every town and village?!)

In one session he presented the Resurrection as a court case with two lawyers slugging it out, making the case for and against the fact that Jesus really did rise from the dead. The viewer was to be the judge.

The arguments went something like this:-

Against: Jesus didn't actually die on the cross. He resuscitated in the tomb and got out alive.

For: But think of all the physical suffering Jesus went through leading up to the crucifixion – flogging and torture both on the night before and the day of the crucifixion. He was so weak he couldn't carry the cross beam. The hardened and experienced Roman soldiers who witnessed so many crucifixions declared him dead. Even if he did revive in the tomb, could he have rolled away the heavy stone and appear so full of life in the upper Room on that first Easter evening?

Against: The disciples stole Jesus' body to make it look like Resurrection.

For: The one thing that comes across in the Gospels is that the disciples were not expecting the Resurrection. They were frightened at his appearances. Jesus took them by surprise. Later they faced persecution and death for preaching the Gospel. Would they have risked their lives for something they knew was a lie? No one ever produced the body.

Against: The women and the disciples went and looked inside the wrong tomb on that first Easter morning.

For: The tomb belonged to a secret follower of Jesus – Joseph of Arimathea – and the women went with him to lay the body of Jesus in the tomb. Luke specifically records that the women “saw the tomb and how his body was laid.” It's very unlikely they would have been mistaken about where it was. And, anyway, the tomb was not entirely empty – there were the folded grave clothes on the slab. If it had been the wrong tomb, the authorities would have produced Jesus' body to disprove all the preaching about the Resurrection.

Against: It wasn't Jesus who ended up on the cross. Someone else was substituted in his place.

For: From the cross Jesus spoke with his mother and the disciple John. Also the crowd around the cross would have known who Jesus was and would have recognised it if someone else was being put to death instead.

Against: The disciples hallucinated about seeing Jesus in the Upper Room. It was all in their imagination.

For: But Jesus appeared to the disciples not just once but many times, and appeared not just to them but also to over 500 people at one time. He was not a ghost but ate breakfast with them on the shores of Lake Galilee.

In short, the case for the Resurrection rested on the following:-

The tomb was empty.

The grave clothes were rolled up where Jesus' body had lain.

Jesus was seen alive many times after his death – not just by individuals but by a large number of people in one place.



The disciples were not expecting the Resurrection. At first they were frightened and afraid when Jesus appeared to them, but were gradually transformed into brave and courageous apostles who risked life and limb for the sake of the Gospel.

Two millennia later the church has not only survived but continues to grow and lives are still being transformed.

Why is the Resurrection so important that St Paul declared, "If Christ has not been raised then our preaching is useless and so is your faith." Jesus is not just an historical figure but a living reality. Christianity is not so much about belief in certain doctrines as a relationship with the risen Jesus. It is not about revering a long dead hero but about experiencing the presence of the living Jesus in our daily lives. And, the Resurrection gives us the assurance that there is more to our lives than the number of years that we live. Edward the Confessor once said that here on earth we live in the land of the dying but that after death we will see the blessings of the Lord in the land of the living. The promise of Scripture is that, as Christ was raised from the dead, so shall we be.

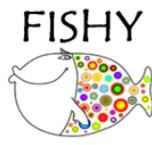
With joy and hope we join in the Easter greeting:- "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!"

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY APRIL



Sunday 1st

Easter Sunday

	10.00am	Sunday Club & Easter Egg Hunt	
Thursday 5 th	2.00pm	Mothers' Union in the Bier House	
Friday 6 th	6.30pm	First Friday Eucharist	
Saturday 7 th	9.00am	Breakfast Church in the Bier House	
Sunday 8th		The 2nd Sunday of Easter	
Monday 9 th	2.00pm	Dementia Support Group in the Bier House	
Tuesday 10 th	10.00am	Bible Study <i>with Ken Ward</i> in the Bier House	
Wednesday 11 th	7.30pm	Bible Study <i>with Alison Woodhouse</i> in the Bier House	
Friday 13 th	9.15am	Little Fishes pre-school group in the Parish Hall	
Sunday 15 th		The 3rd Sunday of Easter	
	10.00am	Sunday Club	
	12noon	Baptism Service	
	4.00pm	New Beginnings Marriage Course in the Bier House	
Tuesday 13 th	10.00am	Bible Study Group <i>with Ken Ward</i> in Bier House	
Wednesday 18 th	2.00pm	WOW Service	
	3.15pm	Fishy Club in Parish Hall	
	7.30pm	Primetime Ladies Group	
Friday 20 th	9.15am	Little Fishes in Parish Hall	
Saturday 21 st	7.30pm	Amadeus Concert in Church	
Sunday 22nd		The 4th Sunday of Easter	
	10.00am	Sunday Club	
		After the morning service there will be the APCM	
	2.00pm	St George's Day Parade Service for Formby District Scouts	
Tuesday 24 th	10.00am	Bible Study <i>with Ken Ward</i> in Bier House	
Wednesday 25 th	3.15pm	Fishy Club in Parish Hall	
	7.30pm	Bible Study Group <i>with Alison Woodhouse</i> in the Bier House	
	8.00pm	Timeout in the Cricket Club	
Thursday 26 th	2.00pm	Halcyon House Eucharist	
Friday 27 th	9.15am	Little Fishes in Parish Hall	
Sunday 29th		The 5th Sunday of Easter	
	12 noon	Children's Hot Dog Service in Church	
	6.30pm	Service of Wholeness	

From the Church Registers

Funerals

15th March James Dunn
15th March Frank Maxfield
16th March Ruth Jones

Interment of Ashes

11th March Joyce Cross



Church Flowers

Many people have special days in the year which they commemorate. Flowers on the altar of St Peter's Church can fittingly mark the anniversary of a birth, baptism, confirmation, marriage or death, or may be used as an expression of joy or thanksgiving at any time.

We invite you to remember your family, friends, and other loved ones with a donation towards our Church flowers. Suggested donation is £20.

The occasion would be printed in the Sunday bulletin (if you would prefer not to be included in the bulletin please let us know).



*Altar
Flowers*

If you would like to make a donation for flowers on a particular Sunday, please put £20 or more in an envelope (cheques made payable to St Peter's PCC) and write details of the special event and date on the envelope.

Please send or hand in to the Parish Office at least 3 weeks before the special date.

EMAIL DIRECTORY

We have a parish email directory which is used once or twice a month to send out dates for the month and also when a special event is coming up. If you would like to be added to the email list please send an email to stpetersformby@gmail.com. This is a way to help us keep in touch.

Email addresses will only be used by St Peter's.

We would like to include the announcement of births, engagements and special anniversaries etc. **so please let us know - alisonwhiffing@aol.com**

Worship
On
Wednesday
pre-school
service
Easter
Bonnet
Parade

